## **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**



HEADQUARTERS, 1ST SIGNAL BRIGADE (NETCOM/9TH ASC) **UNIT# 15271** APO AP 96205-5271

**NETC-SKC** 

1 1 JAN 2007

## MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Martin Luther King Holiday Safety Message

- On Monday, 15 January 2007, we will honor Martin Luther King, Jr. and his historic contributions by celebrating his birthday with a national holiday. Martin Luther King, Jr's. noble efforts resulted in legislation that ensures universal application of constitutional guarantees for all Americans. His heroic actions offered every American a vision of brotherhood and unity.
- 2. Many of us will use the long weekend as an opportunity to travel, visit friends, family and participate in recreational sports activities. With winter weather conditions entrenched on the peninsula, adverse weather conditions such as icy, snowy roadways, sidewalks and walkways can be expected at any time. The combination of these hazards can unfortunately be dangerous and deadly. I ask all to monitor the weather conditions, avoid excessive speed, don't drink and drive, use the vehicle's seat belts and wear motorcycle helmets which are the major keys to preventing deadly accidents. Current USFK road conditions can be found at: http://www.usfk.mil/usfk/index.html?/usfk/pmo/roadconditions/index.asp
- 3. During passed winter seasons, Brigade personnel have received serious lost time injuries such as a broken leg or ankle due to falls on icy or snow covered walkways. I ask all leaders to be on the lookout for snow and ice hazards on installation walkways, and when noted, report them to the appropriate authority for correction.
- 4. Commanders will direct junior leaders and first line supervisors to conduct "Under the Oak Tree" counseling prior to releasing their personnel for the holiday weekend. During these briefings, special emphasis will be placed on the potential hazards of the winter season; hazards of the cold weather exposure; hazard of walking on snow and ice covered surfaces and hazards of winter POV operations. Additionally, brief everyone to place emphasis on hazards during sports activities, individual physical limits and physical limits of others. Leaders should use this time to assess their Soldiers' long weekend plans to identify potential hazards and provide the appropriate advice.
- 5. In closing, the Command Sergeant Major and I wish each of you and your families a happy and safe holiday weekend. We would also like to thank all 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Soldiers and civilian workers for all you do for the brigade and our nation. Always remember that safety must never take a day off; it must become an integral and necessary part of everything we do. Let's be safe out there!

"FIRST TO COMMUNICATE!"

Command Sergeant Major

ommanding

P. MOORE

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